Irrigation Crop Diversification Corporation

ANNUAL REPORT 2001

Delivering "value for money" R&D to Saskatchewan irrigators

Irrigation Crop Diversification Corporation

Objects and Purposes of ICDC - *The Irrigation Act, 1996*

The objects and purposes of ICDC are the following:

- to research and demonstrate to producers and irrigation districts profitable agronomic practices for irrigated crops;
- to develop or assist in developing varieties of crops suitable for irrigated conditions;
- to provide land, facilities and technical support to researchers to conduct research into irrigation technology, cropping systems and soil and water conservation measures under irrigation and to provide information respecting that research to district consumers, irrigation districts and the public;
- to co-operate with SIPA, the minister and the corporation in promoting and developing sustainable irrigation in Saskatchewan.

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Irrigation Crop Diversification Corporation

Board of Directors

The following served as Directors of ICDC in 2001:

			Election year (#terms)	
Carl Siemens	Chairman	Rush Lake ID	SWDA	'02(1)
John Konst	Vice Chair	SSRID	LDDA	'02(1)
Gordon Kent	Alt Vice Chair	Riverhurst ID	SIPA	app.
Darryl McGregor	Director	Consul-Nashlyn ID	SWDA	'01(1)
Dale Ewen	Director	Riverhurst ID	LDDA	'01(1)
Don Fox	Director	Baildon ID	SEDA/SIPA	'03(2)
Ken Plummer	Director	Moon Lake ID	NDA	'03(2)
John Linsley	Provincial Rep.		Sask Water	app.
Vacant	Non District Irrigator Rep.			(0)

The Four Development Areas are: Northern (NDA), South Western (SWDA), South Eastern (SEDA) and Lake Diefenbaker (LDDA) as defined in ICDC's bylaws.

ICDC Directors are elected by District Delegates to the Annual Meeting. Each Irrigation District is entitled to send one ICDC Delegate per 5,000 irrigated acres or part thereof. Two Directors are elected from LDDA, two from SWDA, and one each from NDA and SEDA. The Saskatchewan Irrigation Projects Association (SIPA) and Sask Water are allowed two directors each on the ICDC board. The ICDC board must, by law, have irrigators in the majority.

Staff 2001

By agreement, agrologist and administrative services are seconded to ICDC by Sask Water.

Les Bohrson PAg	ICDC Senior Agrologist	Swift Current
Korvin Olfert PAg	ICDC Agrologist (education leave)	Swift Current
Lana Shaw Articling Ag	ICDC Agrologist	Outlook
Bloomfield Consulting	Debbie Oram	Central Butte
Craig Klemmer	ICDC Agronomy Assistant	Outlook
Jana Nagel	ICDC Agronomy Assistant	Swift Current
Marlene Knopp	ICDC administration	Outlook

ICDC
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Outlook Sask S0L 2N0
(306) 867-5527

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103-02711/

Irrigation Crop Diversification Corporation

Letter of Transmittal

Outlook, Saskatchewan
December 4th 2001
To Her Honour
The Honourable Lynda Haverstock
Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of Saskatchewan

Your Honour:

I have the honor to submit herewith the Annual Report of ICDC (Irrigation Crop Diversification Corporation) for the year 2001, including the financial statement audited by Lois A. Johnson CMA, all in accordance with *The Irrigation Act, 1996.*

Respectfully submitted by

Carl Siemens
Chairman
ICDC

Irrigation Crop Diversification Corporation

2001 ICDC Highlights

6th Annual Irrigation Conference in Swift Current December 3rd & 4th

This year's conference bearpit session, to be moderated by Kevin Hursh, is **Why Isn't Irrigation Development Part of Rural Revitalization in Saskatchewan?**

Last year over 100 people participated in the bearpit session: Why Aren't We Feeding More Cattle in Saskatchewan? It was a lively evening with excellent participation.

This conference brings together irrigators from all parts of the province to discuss the irrigation issues of the day.

The Push for a Provincial Irrigation Policy Continues...

ICDC made its formal irrigation funding proposal to the Minister responsible for Sask Water April 10th 2000 in the minister's office in the legislative building. (That same proposal also went to two Federal Ministers.)

Twenty months and a serious drought later we still have no provincial irrigation policy.

ICDC Director Gordon Kent hosted the Sask Water Board at his Riverhurst farm last June during their irrigation tour. He was able to explain the irrigator's perspective to the board. He had one director start and stop a center pivot irrigation system and he showed them all the specialized equipment necessary to successfully grow irrigated beans.

ICDC, SIPA and several Irrigation Districts were directly involved in Sask Water consultations in January and again in July including a workshop in Outlook July 26th.

Irrigation Strategy Development Workshop - July 26th

Sask Water hosted this session in Outlook after their one-on-one meetings with ICDC, SIPA and several Irrigation District boards.

At all these meetings Sask Water had presented its Provincial Irrigation Strategy Development paper which dealt with off-farm irrigation infrastructure:

"infill"
"rehab"
relocation/conversion of inefficient gravity irrigation projects in Saskatchewan

Four options were presented:

Option 1 - Current Programs (infill 87%:13%; rehab 70%:30% and relocation/conversion 35%:65%)
Option 2 - 1/3:1/3:1/3 (all infrastructure funding cost shared 1/3 feds: 1/3 prov: 1/3 irrigators plus free technical assistance from Sask Water)
Option 3 - Recover Full Capital Cost from Irrigation Districts (costs recovered over a 30 year period with repayment schedules based upon the government cost of borrowing, plus Sask Highways commit to provide primary highway access and Sask Water provides free technical assistance)
Option 4 - Irrigation Districts Takeover Works (Districts takeover their works with free technical assistance and a transition program provided by Sask Water)

Riverhurst ID made a written proposal which could be considered a modified Option 2 in which the cost of on-farm works would be included in the cost sharing formula.

SSRID also made a written submission which recommended improving the primary highway network in advance of investing in irrigation infrastructure. SSRID ranked Option 1 first followed by Option 2. It finds Option 3 unacceptable and does not support Option 4.

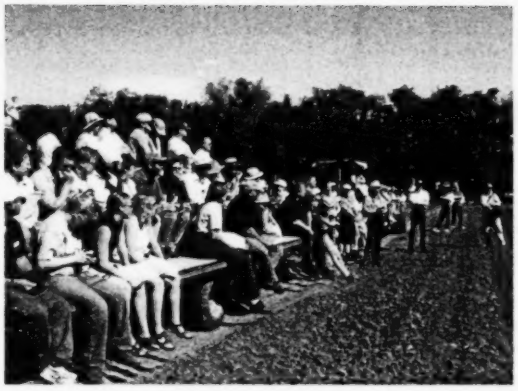
A strong consensus came from the small group discussions that the Riverhurst ID proposal was the preferred Option followed by Option 2 (1/3:1/3:1/3) as presented by Sask Water. Option 1 was in third place; it has been supported by irrigators since 1996 but is not thought to be attainable. Options 3 & 4 were not acceptable to the workshop participants.

Irrigation R&D

Irrigation R&D, as proposed by ICDC on behalf of all irrigators, was not included in the workshop and discussion paper as Sask Water assumed consensus on this issue and will take it forward as proposed to the Minister by ICDC in April 2000. ICDC has been involved in a comprehensive planning process for irrigation R&D which includes the priorities of irrigators.

Serious situation at The Irrigation Centre, Outlook

As the industry partner at The Centre, along with PFRA and Sask Water, ICDC has been an integral part of producing the irrigation R&D Strategic Plan, The Business Plan and the more detailed work plan. The planning process has brought the priorities of irrigators to the table. As of March 2002, when AFIF expires, The Centre will be out of R&D program dollars. Funding since 1986 has come from a series of Federal/Provincial agreements which have all expired. This Centre is a world class facility with an experienced staff which all of is in jeopardy.



Non District Irrigators

ICDC made a proposal for the inclusion of non-district irrigators at its delegate and director level. ICDC now awaits Sask Water's decision on upgrading its irrigation database. Seven hundred out of 3,500 of *The Irrigator* newsletters have been returned to ICDC as "undeliverable".

ICDC's *"value for money R&D"* 2001

This is the first year ICDC has been on its own for irrigation R&D funding. Delegates at last year's Annual Conference approved the plan as recommended by the board and it has been carried out by the ICDC staff.

Forage Centres

ICDC Senior Agrologist Les Bohrson has established irrigated forage centres at Blair Backman's Consul site and at Larry, Lyle and Dick Friesen's at Warman. Both sites hosted well-attended field days on June 18th, July 25th and August 7th .

The Backman site again demonstrated over 400% increase in water use efficiency in the production of high quality irrigated alfalfa compared to existing irrigation methods in the area. In a year of serious drought and limited water supply in South West Saskatchewan, the value of such an improvement in water use efficiency is immense.

The Friesen site, in the heart of dairy country, demonstrated irrigated cereals for silage and grain.

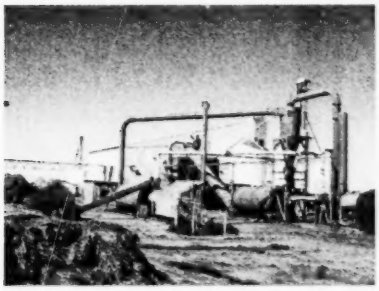
Irrigators in the Saskatoon milk shed also look at irrigated grass and legume species established by the Saskatchewan Forage Council.

Both sites showed the value of irrigation to the expanding provincial livestock industry in the middle of seriously droughted-out areas.

Timothy hay

ICDC is fostering irrigated Timothy production, which has expanded to 4,500 acres in the Lake Diefenbaker area (up from 1,000 acres in 1998), through an industry driven application to ADF for timothy agronomy research.

ICDC is working alongside ELCAN in a Forage Manager Demo with 3 cooperating producers involved on 5 irrigated fields:



- An established 3 year old stand of Climax (2 cuts/ year)
- 2 new stands of Colt & Aurora (1st cut taken this summer)
- 2 section pivots with ½ Climax; ½ fall 2001 seeded Aurora

A field day was held by ELCAN and the Canadian Hay Association July 20th which was informative and well attended. Check out the Coming Events for the Canadian Hay Association national conference in Saskatoon this November.

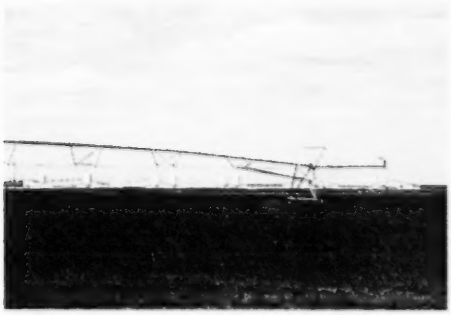
Pocket Gopher Control

When ICDC wrote irrigation districts to offer to cost share training and pocket gopher control, Grainland ID stepped forward. The fifteen irrigators "floated" their alfalfa plots last spring and had Clint Bjolverud, their ditchrider, hand bait the first 1,059 new mounds. Irrigators at Grainland will tell you that it's made a real difference to haying this year.

Clint continued to bait this fall. His hard work plus the district's commitment can get this problem under control. Grainland hosted a July 4th field day to demonstrate their success and show the truck mounted leveller that they're using.

ICDC Agrologist Les Bohrson, once again, teamed up with Elton Weich, a pocket gopher control practitioner from Nebraska, and Brodie Blair, a distributor for Burrow Oat Bait touring the province this fall. Over 500 farmers have attended these ICDC pest management field days in three years!

Hog Manure as a Fertilizer



ICDC Agrologist Debbie Oram with her assistant Lynne Schoenau, working with Birsay Pork Farms and Sask Water's soils agrologist, Garth Weiterman, are getting a grip on the management of this valuable resource for irrigated crops.

Last fall the manure analysis showed that two of the sites received over double the N and half the P received by the third site. The manure for the first two fields came from a weanling/finishing barn while the third site received manure from a farrowing barn.

The third site also used liquid effluent pumped onto the crop through a centre pivot throughout the season. How much nutrient would this apply per pass? Our challenge was to collect, analyse and quantify the nutrients applied in this way. The analysis, in this case, were that every inch of fertigation applied 5-2-11 (N-P-K). In 10 inches applied by the pivot 50-20-110 (N-P-K) were applied. Soil samples taken this fall comparing treated and untreated areas will complete the monitoring for this year and form the basis for the application rate next year.

This project is taking a valuable resource and applying science to manage it effectively for both the hog producer and the irrigator in an environmentally responsible fashion.

Bean Seed Production

ICDC feels that irrigation is the perfect environment for seed production and multiplication. To that end three irrigators grew CDC Pintium pinto beans for seed this year. CDC Pintium is an upright variety designed for solid seeding and straight combining. How would it produce under irrigation? The answer is: very well.

ICDC will continue to work with the Saskatchewan Pulse Growers Association to develop seed standards for beans to add value to Saskatchewan's irrigated beans.

Corn (Grain & Silage) Demos

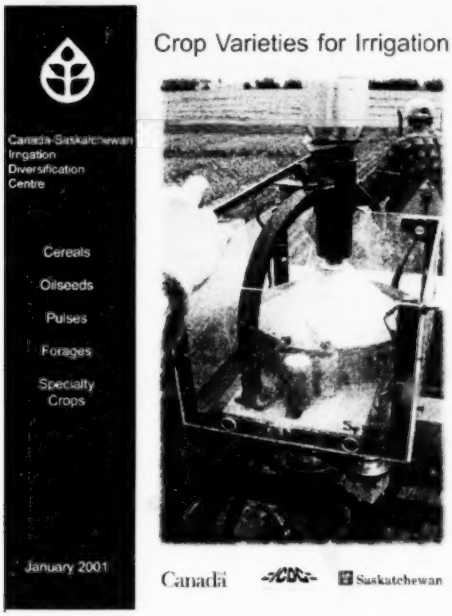
ICDC purchased a stock of Manitoba Corn manuals last spring and distributed them to irrigators. Seven silage and grain corn demos closely monitored over 900 irrigated acres. Irrigated corn field days were hosted at Baildon on September 10th by Rick Swenson and Ryan Gibson, and at the SSRID on October 17th by Grant and Keith Carlson. An excellent corn production database has been compiled by ICDC Agrologist Les Bohrson and his Agronomy Assistant Jana Nagel.

100 bushel per acre grain corn crops where achieved in this year's demo program.

Irrigation Website

ICDC and SIPA are cooperating in the development of an irrigation website **irrigationsaskatchewan.com** to be a "gateway" to irrigation information. The site was unveiled at the Annual Conference by ICDC's Lana Shaw.

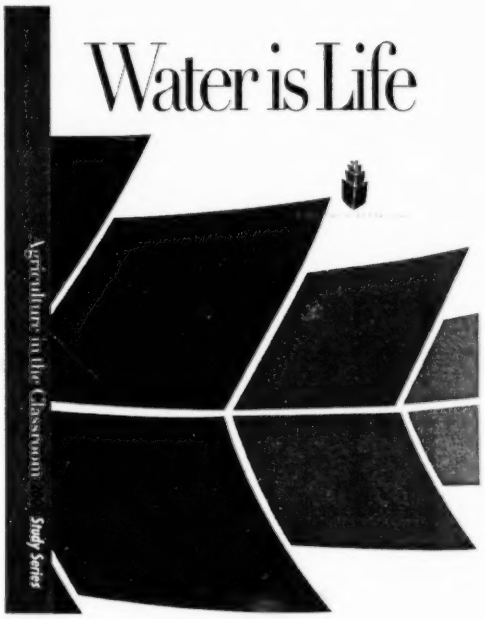
Crop Varieties for Irrigation



ICDC continues to do this work at the Irrigation Centre thanks to ICDC Agronomy Assistant Craig Klemmer, and will publish the new edition in time for the Crop Production Show. Look for it at the CSIDC Booth.

Education

ICDC directors Gordon Kent and John Linsley participated in the development of irrigation curriculum for Ag In The Classroom (AITC). AITC sends this material: "Water Is Life" to all Saskatchewan schools (all 1,100 of them). "Water is Life" includes information on irrigation in Saskatchewan.



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LOIS A. JOHNSON, C.M.A.
CERTIFIED MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTANT
P.O. Box 22, R.R. 1
Delisle, Sask. SOL 0P0
Phone: 493-2690

To the Members

I have audited the statement of financial position of the Irrigation Crop Diversification Corporation as at March 31, 2002 and the statement of revenues for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Corporation's management. My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit.

I conducted my audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that I plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit also includes examining on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In my opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Corporation as at March 31, 2002 and the results of its operations for the year then ended in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

Delisle, Saskatchewan
May 20, 2002

Lois A. Johnson CMA

Irrigation Crop Diversification Corporation
Balance Sheet
As at March 31, 2002

ASSETS:	2002	2001
CU Membership	$ 5.00	$ 135.69
Cash and Bank	20,585.18	77,538.77
Short Term Investments	174,586.56	101,736.48
GST Receivable	1.146.36	
Accounts Receivable	2,279.55	3,461.70
	$ 198,602.65	$ 182,872.64
LIABILITIES AND MEMBERS' EQUITY:		
GST payable	$ -	$ 7,129.79
Prepaid Member Levies	-	809.91
Contracts Payable	-	
MEMBERS' EQUITY:		
Members' Equity	198,602.65	174,932.94
	$ 198,602.65	$ 182,872.64

Irrigation Crop Diversification Corporation
Statement of Surplus
As at March 31, 2002

Opening Balance	$ 174,932.94
From operations	23,669.71
Ending Balance	$ 198,602.65

Irrigation Crop Diversification Corporation
Statement of Revenue and Expenditure
For the year ended March 31, 2002

REVENUE:	2002	2001
Member Levies	$ 28,924.89	$ 29,449.55
Non District Levies	32,710.28	32,710.28
Project Funding	-	8,079.75
Crop Management Project Fees	514.03	1,841.15
Forage Management Project Fees	654.22	981.33
Interest	2,984.15	3,585.51
Total Revenue	$ 65,787.57	$ 76,647.57
EXPENDITURE:		
Project Costs	$ 36,894.00	$ 18,329.58
Professional Fees	530.00	500.00
Crop Management Testing	368.50	1,283.49
Uncollectible Levies	993.84	
Forage Management Testing	2,993.44	8,319.50
Office Expense	338.08	50.00
Total Expenditure	$ 42,117.86	$ 28,482.57
Net Surplus for the Period	$ 23,669.71	$ 48,165.00

Irrigation Crop Diversification Corporation
Changes in Financial Position
As at March 31, 2002

Opening Cash	$ 179,410.94
From Operation	23,669.71
Increase in Accounts Receivable	35.79+
Increase in Accounts Payable	7,939.70-
Closing Cash	$ 195,176.74

The objects and purposes of ICDC are:

a) to research and demonstrate to producers and irrigation districts profitable agronomic practices for irrigated crops;

b) to develop or assist in developing varieties of crops suitable for irrigated conditions;

c)to develop or assist in developing varieties of crops suitable for irrigated conditions; to provide means to researchers to conduct research into related technology, cropping systems and conservation measures under irrigation and to provide information respecting their research to members irrigation districts and the public;

d) to co-operate with SIPA, the minister and Sask Water Corporation in promoting and developing sustainable irrigation in Saskatchewan.

2. There are no restricted funds in the possession of the Corporation.